



1-24-05

AF/3626
JFW

Attorney Docket No. 00646/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Takao TABATA et al
Serial No. : 09/659,771
Filed : September 11, 2000
For : MEDICAL APPARATUS LEASE
SYSTEM FOR WHICH FEES ARE
PAID DEPENDING ON USAGE
STATUS AND MEDICAL APPARATUS
COMPATIBLE THEREWITH
Art Unit : 3626
Examiner : Carolyn M. BLECK

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
WITH STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Submitted herewith are the following:

- (1) Copy of a Japanese Office Action (and English translation thereof) issued in the counterpart Japanese application;
- (2) Copies of the cited publications (except for JP 10-222568); and
- (3) Form PTO/SB/08A.

An English translation of said Japanese Office Action is provided, thereby satisfying the requirements for a concise explanation of relevance for any non-English language publications cited therein (MPEP 609 III A(3)).

Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. 10-222568 was submitted to the USPTO with the Information Disclosure

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Date of Deposit: January 21, 2005
I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service with sufficient postage under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

N. Sahadeo
Nalini P. Sahadeo

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

Statement filed April 28, 2004 and, therefore, is not supplied herewith and is not listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e) (1)

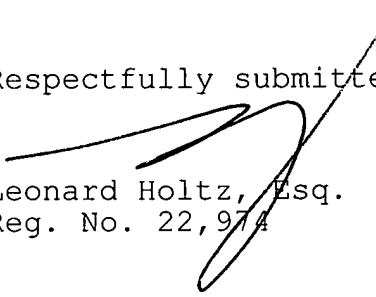
Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement. Said Communication bears a mailing date of November 2, 2004. Therefore, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is timely under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e) and does not require a fee.

It is requested that an initialed copy of the Form PTO/SB/08A be returned to indicate that the publications listed therein have been considered and made of record.

NOT A RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This paper is not a response to the outstanding Office Action mailed August 3, 2004. A response to said outstanding Office Action will be filed in due course.

Respectfully submitted,


Leonard Holtz, Esq.
Reg. No. 22,974

Encs.

Dated: January 21, 2005

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT 		Application Number	09/659,771
		Filing Date	September 11, 2000
		First Named Inventor	Takao TABATA et al
		Group Art Unit	3626
		Examiner Name	Carolyn M. BLECK
Sheet 1 of 2	Attorney Docket Number		00646/LH

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits*	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Inits*	Cite No ¹	Offc ³	Document Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T ⁶
		JP	10-003452			01-06-1998		
		JP	10-161864			06-19-1998		
		JP	10-314149			12-02-1998		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: January 21, 2005